

COURSE LIST FOR SPRING 2024

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

[Updated: 2023-10-09]

SOCI 10100 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Credits: 4

Instructor: Stephen Sweet | 211 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-3910 | ssweet@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: None.

Attributes: SO, TPJ

Course Description: Basic scientific concepts related to social systems, recurring social processes, cultural factors, and social factors in the development of personality.

SOCI 21300 SOCIOLOGY OF SEXUALITIES

Credits: 4

Instructor: Rebecca Plante | 315 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-3311 | rplante@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: One liberal arts course.

Attributes: CNSL, DV, SO, SO4, TIDE, WGS, WGSJ

Course Description: Examination of how sexuality is defined in our society, stressing that it is cultural as well as biological and often defined in oppressive ways. Students investigate how the intersection of gender with capitalism, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation has a strong impact on the definition of sexuality.

SOCI 22300 RICH AND POOR IN THE U.S.

Credits: 4

Instructor: Sergio Cabrera | 212 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-7968 | scabrera@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: One course in the liberal arts.

Attributes: CNSL, SO

Course Description: Examination of the causes and consequences of class inequality in the U.S. today. Explores how class is defined, how it functions, and how it is sustained across generations in a purportedly democratic and meritocratic society. Applies a sociological perspective to this exploration, with a focus on the growing gap between rich and poor and the impacts of inequality on daily lives.

SOCI 25000 GENDER, THE ENVIRONMENT AND GLOBAL CHANGE

Credits: 4

Instructor: Alicia Swords | 218 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-1209 | aswords@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: One liberal arts course.

Attributes: ABSS, DV, ENSS, ENVE, ESSS, LAEL, LAGC, LMEL, LSCO, SO, SO1, TPJ, TQSF, WGS

Course Description: Explores interconnections between gender and the environment. Studies patriarchy, colonialism, capitalist development, globalization, and environmental crises. Special focus on case studies of social movements that challenge gender hierarchies and environmental degradation, including feminist, indigenous, and environmental justice movements.

SOCI 32100 PUNISHMENT IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Credits: 4

Instructor: Jessica Dunning-Lozano | 215 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-7490 | jdunninglozano@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: Two sociology courses.

Attributes: CNSL, LXME, SO2, SS

Course Description: Examines the social, historical, and political underpinnings of the mass enforcement of zero-tolerance school policies in the U.S., and the resulting creation of punitive schooling regimes. Explores the political and economic contexts of 20th-century punitive school disciplinary policies through a critical framework grounded in contemporary social theories of discipline, power, and academic distinctions. Special attention is paid to issues of race, class, and gender inequality and the administration of discipline across social groups and geographic locales, as well as to alternatives to punitive school policies.

SOCI 32900 HEALTH AND THE FAMILY

Credits: 4

Instructor: Joslyn Brenton | 216 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-3153 | jbrenton@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: Two sociology courses.

Attributes: CNSL, SS, WGSC

Course Description: Examines the meaning of health and illness in the family context and against a shifting backdrop of family policies, healthcare values and goals, and intersecting inequalities. Investigates how we define family and health, how marital status affects health, how health is negotiated among family and community members, and how inequalities shape health opportunities. Includes in-depth interviewing to apply course concepts to one's own health status and family dynamics.

SOCI 34200 DATA ANALYSIS

Credits: 4

Instructor: Stephen Sweet | 211 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-3910 | ssweet@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: SOCI 24200.

Attributes: QL, SS

Course Description: Data Analysis introduces students to how sociologists use quantitative and qualitative data to study social phenomena. Quantitative topics include: data management, variable structures, numeric and graphic displays of data, univariate analysis, and bivariate analysis. Qualitative topics include: data management, reading interview transcripts and fieldnotes, positionality; open and focused coding, content analysis data rubrics, analytic memos, applying sociological concepts/theory to analyze qualitative data, and report writing.

SOCI 36300 MASS INCARCERATION IN THE U.S.

Credits: 4

Instructor: Jessica Dunning-Lozano | 215 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-7490 | jdunninglozano@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: Two sociology courses.

Attributes: SO3, SS

Course Description: Examination of the phenomenon of mass incarceration in the United States through a sociological lens, with focus on underlying social, political and economic causes. Explores the prison as a physical site of confinement and punishment, disproportionate impacts of the criminal justice system on low income, African American and Latinx communities, and the enduring consequences of incarceration on individuals, families, and communities, from limited labor market options to felony disenfranchisement.

SOCI 41000 FEMINISM, FOOD, AND HEALTH

Credits: 4

Instructor: Joslyn Brenton | 216 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-3153 | jbrenton@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: 3 courses in Sociology, or one 300-level course with either a WGS or a WGS1 attribute.

Attributes: SS, WGS, WGS1

Course Description: Investigates how food consumption and health experiences are shaped by multiple and intersecting inequalities, highlighting the potential of a feminist lens to help us to identify root causes and future solutions to major social problems surrounding food and health. Draws upon an intersectional theory, exploring ways in which gendered experiences intersect with other systems of oppression.

SOCI 42400 GLOBAL SOCIOLOGY

Credits: 4

Instructor: Alicia Swords | 218 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-1209 | aswords@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: Three courses in sociology.

Attributes: INBG, LAEL, LAGC, SO1, WGS, WGS3, WGS1

Course Description: This course focuses on how people shape global change. The course examines social processes such as colonialism, development, and globalization by studying their institutions, manifestations, and the resistances they provoke. Throughout the course we examine the dynamic relationships between structural processes and resistance, agency and human initiatives.

SOCI 48400 QUANTITATIVE CAPSTONE

Credits: 4

Instructor: Sergio Cabrera | 212 Muller Faculty Center | 607-274-7968 | scabrera@ithaca.edu

Prerequisites: SOCI 31100 and SOCI 34200.

Attributes: CP, WI

Course Description: A capstone experience in which students define and execute a research project that involves identification or collection and analysis of quantitative data. Students write a full thesis paper. Students also reflect on the relevance of sociology with respect to charting future pathways through their own life course. Satisfies ICC Capstone and Writing Intensive requirements.